

Message Text

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60

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9756

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - MRN CORRECTION - 5623 VICE 6523

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, JA

SUBJECT: SECOND ROUND OF UNIFIED LOCAL ELECTIONS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUMMARY: ON APRIL 27, CONSERVATIVES WON TWO UPPER HOUSE BY-ELECTIONS AND DOMINATED IN SECOND ROUND OF UNIFIED LOCAL ELCTIONS. RESULTS HAVE LITTLE MEANING FOR NATIONAL LEVEL POLITICS AND PRIME MINISTER MIKI'S STANDING. EMD SUMMARY.

1. LDP CANDIDATES GAINED EASY VICTORIES IN TWO HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS BY -ELECTIONS HELD APRIL 27. FORMER JUSTICE MINISTER YUICHI KORI (73) WON IN IBARAKI PREFECTURE, AND ISAMU FUKUI (71) WON IN AICHI PREFECTURE. AS RESULT, PART LINEUPS IN UPPER HOUSE ARE: LDP (130), JSP (61), KOMEITO (24), JCP (20) DSP (10), NIIN CLUB (4) AND INDEPENDENTS (3) --TOTAL (252).

2. IN SECOND ROUND OF UNIFIED LOCAL ELECTIONS HELD SAME DAY, CONSERVATIVES APPEAR TO HAVE HELD THEIR OWN. WITH VOTE COUNTING STILL UNDERWAY, LDP AND CONSER-
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VATIVE CANDIDATES HAVE WON 101 MAYORAL CONTESTS,

REFORMISTS HAVE TAKEN 22 AND UNAFFILIATED
INDEPENDENTS HAVE GAINED 12. THIS COOOOUNTS FOR 135
OF 165 MAYORAL RACES. MOST SIGNIFICANT
REFORMIST VICTORIES CAME IN NIIGATA AND OITA, BUT
CONSERVATIVES GAINED IMPORTANT OFFSET WITH TURN-
AROUND IN KAGOSHIMA. FINAL RESULTS SEEM LIKELY TO
PRODUCE LITTLE THREAT TO CONSERVATIVE DOMINANCE IN
MAYORAL POSTS AND IN CITY AN VILLAGE ASSEMBLY SEATS.

3. COMMENT: PRESSSEES SOME MEANING IN FACT DSP
TEAMED UP WITH LDP 26, LARGELY VICTORIOUS MAYORAL
RACES. WE SEE LESS MEANING, HOWEVER SINCE SUCCESSFUL
CANDIDATES WERE VIRTUALLY ALL INCUMBENTS ANYWAY. TWO
UPPER HOUSE WINS SLIGHTLY IMPROVE LDP MAJORITY IN
THAT BODY (NOW 8 SEATS), BUT, BEYOND THAT, SUNDAY'S
ELECTION OUTCOME WILL HAVE LITTLE OR NO IMPACT ON
NATIONAL POLITICS AND IN NO WAY, FOR GOOD OR
ILL, INFLUENCE PRIME MINISTER MIKI'S STANDING.
END COMMENT.
HODGSON

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